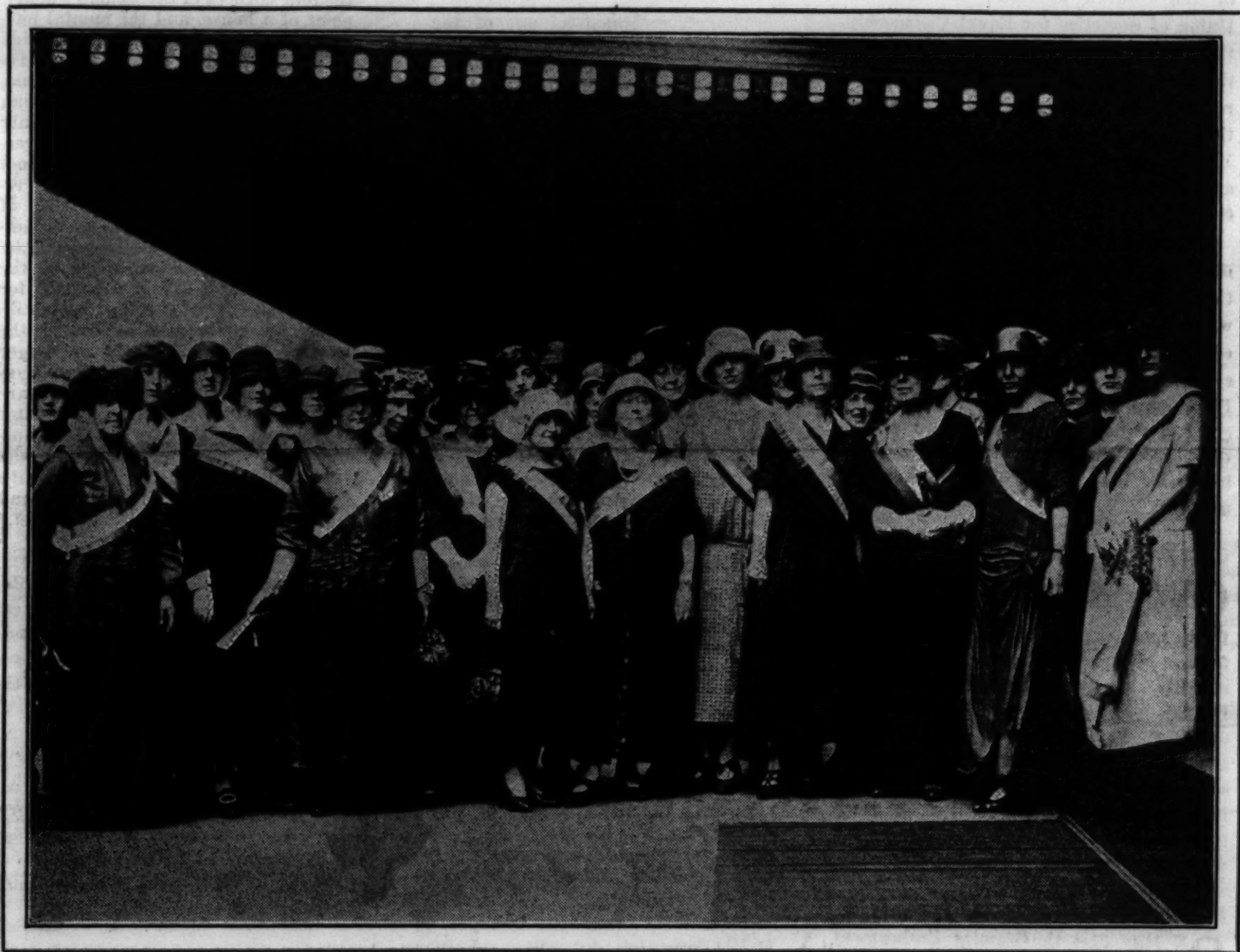


Equal Rights

VOL. XI, No. 21
FIVE CENTS

SATURDAY,
JULY 5, 1924



**Delegation of Members and Officers of the Woman's Party
Who Appeared Before the Democratic Platform Committee in New York City, on June 24th,
at the Waldorf Hotel**

Feminist Notes

Equal Pay In England

THE *Woman's Leader*, British feminist paper, in a recent issue, states that a protest meeting, demanding Equal Pay for Equal Work for men and women teachers, was held in Trafalgar Square by women representing fourteen organizations. They were The Women's Freedom League, St. Joan's Social and Political Alliance, the Woman's Auxiliary Service, the Professional Union of Trained Nurses, the Six Point Group, the Battersea Parents' Union, the League of the Church Militant, the National Union of Societies for Equal Citizenship, the Federation of Women Civil Servants, the Association of Women Clerks and Secretaries, the Actresses' Franchise League, the Women's Election Committee, the Young Women's Christian Association and the Deptford Women's Co-operative Guild.

A resolution was passed that "This meeting protests against the differentiation between the salaries of men and women teachers, and, in view of their equal professional training and duties, calls upon the Government to instruct the Burnham Committee to establish the principle of equal pay for men and women teachers of the same professional status by raising the women's scale to that of the men."

Women In The British Labor Party

OVER a thousand delegates of the Women's Sections of the Labour Party met together at the National Conference of Labour Women, which opened recently at the Holborn Empire, in London. Mrs. Harrison Bell, chairman of the conference, pointed out the necessity of strengthening the women's sections so that women might take their full share in the work of the party, and at the same time she urged that they should press for women Parliamentary candidates.

Family Endowment Society In England

ON May 21st the Family Endowment Council, founded by Eleanor Rathbone, was formally turned into the Family Endowment Society, to take action on making adequate provision for families in England.

Swiss Church Gives Women Rights

THE *Schweizer Frauenblatt*, organ of the Swiss Federation of Women's Clubs, in a recent issue, contains an account of the recent elections in the Evangelical Reformed Church of Basel. This church, unlike the Republic of Switzerland, has already granted women full suffrage and made them eligible to office. In the recent election nine women were

chosen for membership in the synod of seventy members and out of the seventy-one presbytery members seventeen are women. Of the nine women members of the synod, three are fundamentalists and five progressives; the other was elected from a list not belonging to either of the two parties.

Women's Activities In Holland

IN an interview in the May 23rd issue of *The Vote*, organ of the Woman's Freedom League of Great Britain, Rosa Manus of Holland spoke of the feminist movement in her country. She said:

"Though reckoned as one of the small countries of the world, the women of Holland are more advanced than the women of many of the larger countries. The Dutch Women's Suffrage Society, after twenty years' work to obtain women's enfranchisement, has now changed its title to that of the League of Women Voters, and is working today on more general lines for the advancement of women. This League has several subsidiary committees. One of these is composed of eminent women lawyers, who have drawn up a scheme for new marriage laws. Another is concerned with the question of married women's nationality. * * *

"Dutch women voted for the first time on equal terms with men in 1917, and two women were elected to Parliament the same year. In the present Parliament we have seven women members, all belonging to different political parties. Dutch women now take a full share in all professional activities. Over a thousand women are at present studying at our universities, and we also have a number of women teachers, engineers, doctors, etc. Dr. Aletta Jacobs, now in her 71st year, was the pioneer in opening the medical profession to women. She had great difficulties to overcome, and was only permitted to study for one year at the university, and then was not allowed to speak or take part in any discussion. She graduated in 1879, and became a practicing physician. Once she was arrested by the police for visiting a patient at 10 o'clock at night, and on another occasion because she went to the theater unescorted."

[Dr. Jacobs visited the Woman's Party Headquarters when she was in Washington attending the Women's International League Conference. She also wrote a special article for *EQUAL RIGHTS* on the equal protective laws for men and women in Holland. This appeared in the May 24th issue.]

Italian Women Pay Tribute

Attivita *Femminile Sociale*, organ of the National Council of Italian Women, pays tribute in a recent issue to the memory of Ettore Sacchi, who died on April 6th and who was the author of the law passed on July 17th, 1919, opening government positions in Italy to women.

Woman Presides At Indian Meeting

MRS. JWALA PRASAD presided at the business sessions of the United Provinces Social Conference held recently in Bombay. This was the first time that a woman had occupied such a position in India since the social conferences were organized.

In her address dealing with the problems affecting women, Mrs. Prasad said:

"Our progress as women is much hampered by a twofold purdah (veil), physical and mental; the physical purdah is that which confines the bodies of our girls and women within the four corners of the woman's apartment of a house, and the mental purdah is the purdah of ignorance, which keeps their minds in the dark. Indeed, the second purdah, that of ignorance, is infinitely more harmful than the first; and the two are certainly connected in a way, for after a certain age a girl is removed from school and kept in purdah, which thus retards the progress among women of a liberal education and helps to perpetuate their superstition and ignorance. * * * The exigencies of the times demand a liberal education for our girls. There has been an awakening among women as among the men of India. They are no longer content to live their old, humdrum lives behind their purdah, but are eager to come out into the outer world and to share with their husbands, brothers and sons in the larger life of the nation. With women shut out from education and public life, half the nation is dead."

The first resolution of the conference declared that the aim of the social reform movement was "social reconstruction based on principles of justice, freedom and equality, and of social purity, by doing away with all artificial distinctions based on birth or sex."

Japan's First Woman Doctor

MADAME CHIKAKO KURODA, a teacher in the Tokio Higher Normal School, has just received her M.D. degree and has registered for practice in the city of Tokio. She is the first Japanese woman to receive a medical degree.

Philadelphia Has Woman Orchestra

THE Woman's Symphony Orchestra of Philadelphia, founded by Mabel Swint Ewer, who is the president of the institution, has developed into a distinctly successful venture. It was organized the summer of 1921, when Mrs. Ewer called a meeting at her home in Swarthmore, and in the fall of the same year it commenced its first season with a personnel of thirty women. Last year the personnel was composed of forty-five women, and with the opening of next season sixty-five performers will be enrolled. The concert master is Florence Haenle, a young violinist of Philadelphia.

Before the Democratic Platform Committee

TESTING the stand of all political parties on the question of Equal Rights for men and women in the United States, the Woman's Party appeared this week before the Democratic platform committee as it had previously appeared before the Republican platform committee and the Farmer-Labor platform committee. The hearing before the platform committee of the Democratic convention took place at seven o'clock on Tuesday, June 24th, in one of the reception rooms of the Waldorf Hotel, New York.

DORIS STEVENS of New York City, a member of the national council of the Woman's Party, introduced the speakers. Miss Stevens said in part:

"Nothing revolutionary is contained in our demand upon political parties to endorse the Equal Rights Amendment. We are asking merely the extension of rights already enjoyed by half the people—the rectification of injustices which now occur if a child happens to be born a girl.

"The present situation is wholly illogical. The same women who now have equal influence in the councils of political parties and share in the choice of those who rule the nation are denied control of their own earnings, property and children.

"A rare second opportunity is now given political parties. Those who failed to endorse the Equal Suffrage Amendment can endorse the Equal Rights Amendment. We are offering this opportunity to each convention in turn. Having learned the position of the various parties we will then hold our convention and develop our own election campaign program."

MRS. John Dallas Wilkinson of Shreveport, La., was the principle speaker. Mrs. Wilkinson was a member of the state constitutional convention of Louisiana, which drew up the present state constitution of Louisiana. She was formerly state president of the Louisiana Federation of Women's Clubs and is at present chairman of the Woman's Party in that state. Mrs. Wilkinson said in part:

"I speak as a Democrat to Democrats. I believe, Mr. Chairman, that the success of the cause which I represent, Equal Rights for all citizens, will be assured if this great party lends its support to the Equal Rights Amendment. And I believe that the Democratic party will add to its own strength by bold endorsement of this fundamental principle of justice. Southern women learned by bitter experience with state legislatures in the fight for Equal Suffrage that we

What Women Are Thinking

CHARLOTTE PERKINS GILMAN

IN THE NATION (June 11)

"SOME of our most valuable women, as well as many of negligible importance, speak of marriage as if it were an invention of Queen Victoria.

Surely no excessive education is needed to learn that monogamy, among many of the higher carnivora and birds, is as natural a form of sex union as the polygamy of the grass eaters or the promiscuity among insects, reptiles and fish.

"Monogamy appears when it is to the advantage of the young to have the continued care of both parents. This means that the parents share in the activities of supporting the family; it does not mean that the female becomes the servant of the male. Because of the united activities and mutual services of the pair love is developed, and stays. Such profound affection is found in some of these natural 'marriages' that if one of a pair is killed the other will not mate again. Mated leopards or ostriches do not remain together because they are 'Victorian' or 'puritanical,' but because they like to. They could form as many and as variegated 'free unions' as Greenwich Villagers if they choose; there is nothing to stop them.

"But natural monogamy is as free from sex service as from domestic service. The pairing species adhere to their mating season as do the polygamous ones, or even the promiscuous. Man is the only animal using this function out of season and apart from its essential purpose. These natural monogamists are not 'ascetics.' They are not dominated by religious doctrine or civil law. They fulfill their natural desires with the utmost freedom, but these desires do not move them out of season.

"We are as yet so hag-ridden by domestic morality, with its arbitrary restrictions, and by the threats and punishments of law and religion, that we shrink from the broader biological judgment as if it involved blame, punishment, compulsory reform. Not at all. Men and women are no more to blame for being oversexed than a prize hog for being overfat. The portly pig is not sick or wicked; he is merely overdeveloped in adipose tissue. Our condition does not call for condemnation, nor can we expect any sudden and violent change in our behavior resting on foolish ideals of celibacy, of self-denial, or of 'sublimated sex.' It will take several generations of progressive selection, with widely different cultural influences, to re-establish a normal sex development in *genus homo*, with its consequences in happier marriage, better children, and wide improvements in the public health."

have little to expect from those sources. In an amendment to the Federal constitution lies our hope, and we ask its endorsement by the Democratic party."

MISS Alice Gerstenberg of Chicago, Ill., former president of the Society of Midland Authors, and Founder and Director of the Playwrights' Theatre, was another speaker. She said in part:

"Opposition to Equal Rights for women must inevitably be futile. Cycles of history wait for no political party. The complete equality of women with men is obviously approaching. It can best be furthered and embodied in our laws by a Federal Amendment, and we ask endorsement of such an Amendment."

MRS. Clarence M. Smith, New York State chairman of the Woman's Party, said:

"Representing many women of New York State, I urge the endorsement of the Equal Rights Amendment as a direct means of giving women equal legal and economic rights. The radical wing of the Labor party endorsed this Amendment last week at the Farmer-Labor convention in St. Paul. We hope that all parties will see the wisdom of endorsing it before rather than after it becomes the law."

ALARGE delegation of Women's Party leaders crowded the room where the hearing was held, and before and after the hearing interviewed the members of the platform committee individually in support of the Equal Rights plank.

MRS. Gaillard Stoney, delegate to the Democratic Convention from California, and a prominent member of the San Francisco branch of the Woman's Party, was scheduled to be one of the speakers at the hearing, but because of the intense heat was unable to remain until the time when the Woman's Party delegation was heard. Mrs. Stoney left the following message to be given for her to the platform committee:

"The women of the Western states led the world in equal suffrage, but now the women of other nations have been granted equal legal and economic rights, while we endure the humiliation of discriminations which deprive us of equal control of our children, our earnings, our property, and of equal opportunities for education and for service. As a Democrat I urge you most earnestly to incorporate the Equal Rights plank in the Democratic platform."

Equal Rights



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Founders.....	\$100.00
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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

To remove all forms of the subjection of
women.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights
throughout the United States
and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce
this article by appropriate legislation"

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 21.
House Joint Resolution Number 75.]

Introduced in the Senate, December 10, 1923,
by SENATOR CHARLES E. CURTIS.

Introduced in the House of Representatives,
December 13, 1923,
by REPRESENTATIVE D. R. ANTHONY.

The Woman's Party Election Conference

THREE national political conventions have now passed upon the question of declaring their support of Equal Rights for women. The Republican and Democratic conventions made no reference to it in their platforms. The Farmer-Labor Convention endorsed the principle of Equal Rights in its platform, and passed a resolution calling upon Congress to submit the Equal Rights Amendment to the state legislatures.

There remains the convention called by the Committee on Political Action. The question of Equal Rights for women was brought before this convention in Cleveland on July 4th, and the effort was made to obtain an endorsement from this convention similar to the endorsements secured from the Farmer-Labor Convention in St. Paul.

Finally, on August 2nd, the Woman's Party will hold its national conference at Meadowmount, in the Adirondacks, to determine its own course in the coming elections. By the time of this conference the position of all of the national political parties on Equal Rights will be known. With this knowledge the Woman's Party will then decide how it can best further the interests of women in the coming elections.

All members of the Woman's Party are invited to attend the election conference on August 2nd and advise as to the best course to be pursued in the elections. Members of national, state and local committees, Life Members and Founders of the Woman's Party are eligible to vote upon the election policy. All members of the organization are eligible to take part in the discussion at the conference.

Members of the Woman's Party are asked to bring to the conference the names of women in their state who are desirous of running for Congress and who are the type of women that would work for the interests of women if elected.

Whatever else the Woman's Party may decide to do in the elections, it will, of course, endeavor to have women elected to Congress, so that there may be a group of women fighting for the interests of women from the vantage ground of the inside.

The Woman's Party has held a number of election policy conferences in the past. The decision made at each has had an influence upon a considerable number of votes at the following election. But the present election conference exceeds in importance any previously held by the Woman's Party, because this year, for the first time, the women taking part in the conference are themselves voters, and the hundreds of thousands of women in the country whom they will represent are also voters. The situation is very different from the situation in 1914, 1916 and 1918, in which years the Woman's Party took part in the election campaigns in order to further the suffrage cause. The results achieved by the Woman's Party in those years before women were enfranchised give reason for high hope as to what may be accomplished this year when we are, at last, voters ourselves.

Building The Bridge Thither

WOMEN stand in this, the twentieth century, on the hither side of a gigantic chasm separating them from Equal Rights. It is of maximum importance both to themselves and to the race that they should go over to the other side—but no one, man or women, can traverse great areas of empty space with no support. A bridge must be built from the past to the future before the promised land can be enjoyed. To this end conversation and conviction are not adequate. Continuous, undeviating work, in concert with others, alone can accomplish the enterprise.

Petitions signed, sealed and delivered, interviews with or letters to Congressmen, resolutions passed by trade unions, church and social organizations, new members, subscribers for Equal Rights, cash contributions—these are the granite and mortar from which the bridge will be built. It is not enough to believe in Equal Rights; belief lives only when it is translated into action.

The tools are ready to your hand; the materials exist wherever human beings live, in every town and village. Let not the day pass without your conscious effort adding its mite to the bridge that leads toward justice.

Democrats Refuse Equal Rights Plank

IN the platform adopted by the National Democratic Convention in New York the week of June 24, 1924, the only references to women were the following:

"We pledge the party to co-operate with the state governments for the welfare, education and protection of child life and all necessary safeguards against exhaustive, debilitating employment conditions for women." * * *

"We welcome the women of the nation to their rightful place by the side of men in the control of the government, whose burdens they have always shared.

"The Democratic Party congratulates them upon the essential part they have taken in the progress of our country, and the zeal with which they are using their political power to aid the enactment of beneficial laws and the exaction of fidelity in the public service."

A DETERMINED effort was made by the various women's organizations to secure the incorporation in the platform of planks pledging the Democratic Party to give its support to raising the status of women.

The Woman's Party appeared before the Platform Committee, urging an Equal Rights plank reading as follows:

"We pledge ourselves to establish Equal Rights for men and women throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction, and to that end we pledge our active support to securing the adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment to the National Constitution, which is now before Congress."

The Women's Democratic Union, under the chairmanship of Mrs. John Blair, submitted a proposed plank pledging the Democratic Party to remove the legal disabilities of women by specific legislation not prejudicial to existing labor laws for women.

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, as chairman of the Democratic Advisory Committee on Planks of Interest to Women, presented to the Platform Committee the following proposed plank on the removal of the disabilities of women:

"As justice to women and equality of opportunity are fundamental principles of the Democratic Party, and as women's organizations have been working for many years to remove the

inequalities between men and women, and as, although in more than half of the states various laws discriminating against women have been repealed or amended, there still remain a considerable number of inequalities in law and in the administration of law, therefore, the Democratic Party



In Senator Phelan's Box at the National Democratic Convention

Doris Stevens, Member National Council of Woman's Party, and Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, President of the Woman's Party.

pledges itself to forward the removal of such inequalities and to correct such discrimination by specific legislation, so drawn as not to invalidate labor laws affecting women, social welfare legislation, and the laws and statutes providing for the protection of women in the family relationships, rather than in any general legislation."

Other women's organizations, such as the League of Women Voters, the Federation of Women's Clubs, the Council of Jewish Women, etc., submitted planks urging the removal of discriminations against women.

Nothing, however, bearing upon the position of women except the few lines quoted at the beginning of this article was placed in the platform.

THE Woman's Party maintained headquarters during the convention in the lobby of the Hotel Waldorf, where the purple, white and gold banners formed a center which attracted an ever-changing group of delegates and visitors to the convention. Miss F. L. Woodson, New York State Organizer of the Woman's Party, was in charge of these convention head-

quarters. Assisting her as hostesses at the Woman's Party booth were Mrs. Abram J. Rose, Mrs. Herbert Mitler, Mrs. Joseph W. Dixon, May Bossi, Mrs. Wm. Hutton Blauvelt, Miss Emma Elliott, Miss Emily Kay, Mrs. Bertha Pancake, Miss Grace Lynn, Mrs. Prall-Bird, Mrs. Elizabeth Worth Muller, Miss Iris Coady, Mrs. Collier and Mrs. A. S. Fancher.

From this convention headquarters the Woman's Party lobbyists went forth to the different hotels and wherever delegates and alternates could be found to line them up in support of the proposed Equal Rights plank. When the convention was in session, the lobbying continued upon the convention floor.

THE direction of the lobbying work was in the hands of Mrs. Clarence M. Smith, New York State Chairman of the Woman's Party. Among the women assisting Mrs. Smith in the interviewing of delegates were Mrs. John Dallas Wilkinson of Shreveport, Louisiana, State Chairman of the Woman's Party; Mrs. Genevieve Allen of San Francisco, national organizer of the Woman's Party; Mrs. Lawrence Lewis of Philadelphia, member of the National

Council of the Woman's Party; Doris Stevens of New York, member of the National Council of the Woman's Party; Mrs. Gaillard Stoney of San Francisco, delegate to the convention from California and a Founder of the Woman's Party;

Among the statements given to the interviewers was one by William Gibbs McAdoo, a candidate for the Presidency. Mr. McAdoo said, in an interview with Mrs. Genevieve Allen:

"On the side of social justice, the rights of women must be jealously guarded. Woman suffrage was a progressive step for this nation to take. It is to the credit of the progressive Democratic ideal that this great charter of liberty for women was consummated during the last Democratic administration. But in addition to the political rights thus obtained, every other necessary thing must be done to secure equal civil and economic rights for women, so that they shall not be discriminated against in the full exercise of citizenship in this Republic.

"Economic rights of women are a matter of deep concern to society, because more and more with the progress of our national development women have become important fac-

tors in industry, and they must not become victims of injustice."

Senator Oscar W. Underwood of Alabama, also a candidate for the Presidency, said to Mrs. Clarence Smith, who interviewed him:

"It is inconceivable to me that anyone should be opposed to Equal Rights for men and women."

United States Senator William Cabell Bruce of Maryland, who was attending the convention, said:

"I am heart and soul for Equal Rights for women in every department of life. I cannot see why anyone should oppose women having every opportunity to develop their lives as far as they are able. I think it is very unfair and unjust that there should be any discriminations against women."

BEFORE the convention assembled a great deal of preliminary work was done by the state branches of the Woman's Party to secure support for the Equal Rights plank from the delegates to the convention. An especial effort was made to enlist the support of the men who were scheduled to be members of the Platform Committee and of the women who had been appointed members of the Advisory Committee on Planks of Interest to Women. A hearing was held by the latter committee at which a delegation from the Woman's Party was present and spoke in behalf of the proposed Equal Rights plank. Mrs. Clarence Smith, Mrs. Cornelia Bruere Rose and Mrs. Mary Murray, all of New York City, were the Women's Party speakers on this occasion.

Letters supporting the Equal Rights plank were also sent from all over the country to the delegates to the convention

and to the members of these two committees. Among the most interesting of these letters was one from Miss Annie Goodrich, dean of the School of Nursing at Yale University, to a member of the Advisory Committee on Planks of Interest to Women. In this letter Miss Goodrich wrote:

"Yale University,
"School of Nursing.
"New Haven, Conn.

"Office of the Dean.

"May 21st, 1924.

"My dear Miss Perkins:

"I understand that you have been selected as one of the representatives of the Democratic Party to deal specifically with women's interests in the National Democratic Party. I am therefor venturing to ask your consideration of the importance of an Equal Rights plank as perhaps the most important plank in the platform of your party.

"I wish very much that I might have the opportunity to discuss this question with you, for I cannot, through the written word, present the arguments which, to my mind, make this an important—perhaps the most important—step in an enduring and far-reaching program of human health and welfare.

"All my long and varied administrative experience has strengthened my belief in the important part women should play in the evolution of our social system. It has become increasingly clear to me that until the differences between men and women, as such, are shown to have no bearing on their co-operation in political, educational or industrial problems, they will not have an equal voice in these matters. Once women have an equal voice, it will then be desirable to place on the statute books laws which will protect men, women and children, all of whom under certain conditions require such legislation.

"The greatest handicap of women in

industry is, I believe, the difference in salaries rather than in the regulation of hours. There are some night positions which are safer and healthier for women than some day positions, and vice versa. There are hours of work which are forced on women in order for them to obtain the amount of money needed—which money, were it not for this constant emphasis on the handicap of women on account of their sex, would be at their command.

"Beginning with the hours and nature of the work of women and men in such an active field as the hospital, and ending with the work I have watched men and women doing in European countries, I am impressed with the fact that women can equal men in strength, and that the decision as to the type of work for which men and women are suited should not be dealt with as related to sex only, but in relation to a number of factors with which in a letter I cannot hope to deal.

"I must repeat that I am entirely convinced that first we must work for equal recognition and after that feel a joint responsibility in placing on the statute books laws that protect the young and weak (mentally or physically) in order to create sounder minds and bodies for the generations that are to come.

"I beg your careful consideration of this matter, with the earnest hope that you will see your way clear to urging that the following resolution be included in your platform:

"Resolved, That the Democratic Party pledge itself to establish Equal Rights for men and women throughout the United States."

"Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) "ANNIE W. GOODRICH,
"Dean."

"Miss Frances Perkins,
"Albany, N. Y."

Utilizing The Maternal Instinct

By Edith Houghton Hooker

THE following news note recently appeared in the *Baltimore Sun*:

"Herbert Hardesty, 19 years old, and James C. Lark, 20, were given six years each in the Maryland Penitentiary yesterday by Chief Judge James P. Gorter.

"The youths were sentenced in the Criminal Court after being convicted of robbing Paul D. Groves of a watch last Saturday. Groves gave them a ride in his automobile, it was testified, and they robbed him."

We reprint the item in full as a commentary on the administration of justice in a state where men are supreme. In Maryland women are not permitted to serve on juries. There are no women on the bench and none in the State's Attorney's office except as clerical assistants. Men are completely in control of the machinery of justice in Maryland, with the

result that cases are handled as in the instance quoted above.

Men instinctively have a high regard for personal property—so high that they frequently place it above human life. Anyone acquainted with penal institutions must know that a Penitentiary is not precisely a favorable environment for lads at an impressionable age. Six years within those bleak walls for youths of nineteen and twenty is practically equivalent to a life sentence in crime. Yet men are obviously so sensitive to their watches and other mundane things that life values fade into insignificance when set in contrast.

It is safe to say that no woman living, had she sat in Chief Judge Gorter's place on the bench when the case of Hardesty and Lark was called, would have imposed a sentence of six years in the Penitentiary

upon these lads. Her maternal instinct would have intervened. No matter how highly she valued a watch, no matter how thankless and unforgiveable the conduct of these boys appeared, her instincts as a woman would have made her think of the life values involved first and the property values second.

It is precisely this divergence in the native instincts of men and women that makes Equal Rights of such vital moment to the race. With women in subjection, barred from the seats of power and responsibility, the humanitarian interests of society can never be conserved. Cases like that of Herbert Hardesty and James C. Lark picture vividly the price that humanity is paying for its failure to utilize the maternal instinct in public affairs. Equal Rights is no academic matter; it is the visible and material sign of the holiest thing in the human race—motherhood.

Blackstone and Women

OF course, Blackstone has many merits. He was the first orderly law-writer and has a most charming style; but, besides his undoubted belief in the existence of witches and his servility to wealth and rank, he was an intense reactionary. In his Commentaries (2 Blackstone, Chap. 4) he says that sons take precedence over daughters in rights of inheritance because "the worthiest of blood should be preferred," and again in the next chapter he says: "The very being or legal existence of woman is suspended during marriage, or at least is incorporated and consolidated into that of the husband!" From the false assumption of the person of the wife being a chattel of the husband has logically followed the premise that he had the right to chastise her, which theory lingered in the jurisprudence of this state longer than in any other; and he adds (2 Blackstone, Chap. 29) that her personal property became the husband's absolutely and her realty became his for life. And there linger other discriminations against women notwithstanding the Nineteenth Amendment, such as C. S., 4225 and 4239, which still

(From a recent speech by the late Chief Justice Walter Clark of North Carolina before the North Carolina University Law School.)

bars them from being witnesses in trials for seduction and abduction unless corroborated, though the defendant is allowed to testify in his own behalf without restriction!

Among the many burdens that have come down to us from the English common law was the theory that a wife was the chattel of her husband, and therefore her property became his upon marriage, and he had the right to thrash her at will, as one of our Courts held until recently, because it was "his business to make her behave herself." This common-law barbarism was held in North Carolina, which was probably the last state to reject it after it had been held obsolete in all the others, as Reade stated in *S. v. Rhodes*, 61 N. C., 456, when he reluctantly followed it.

It was based upon the 23d verse of Chapter 2 of Genesis, in which Adam said: "This is flesh of my flesh and bone of my bone." Therefore the ecclesiastics, who were at that time the judges in Eng-

land, held that the wife and husband were one, and that he was that one, upon the ground that it was the utterance of Deity when a reference to the verse in question will show that it was not the utterance of God, but of the greatest malefactor that this world has known; a man by whom it was declared in the Scriptures that "death and sin came into the world." But precedent had so held it, and judges followed the ruling until now it has been happily abolished both by statute and by the decisions of the Court.

We owe largely to Blackstone's influence also, among other discrepancies, that a married woman cannot yet make a deed without a private examination; that a contract between her and her husband must be approved by the wisdom of some justice of the peace; the retention still of the "estate by entireties," whereby, contrary to our constitutional provision, she is still deprived of her half of her interest in such property during the joint lives of herself and her husband, and entirely if she predecease him; and other unjust discriminations which still exist. (*Young v. Newsome*, 180 N. C., 317, 318.)

In the Field

MABEL VERNON, executive secretary of the Woman's Party, has spent over a month in the state of Washington in order to arouse greater interest in the Equal Rights campaign in that state.

Among meetings at which Miss Vernon has spoken during her stay in Washington are: A luncheon given by the American Association of University Women, in Seattle, at which meeting the president was instructed to write a letter in behalf of the amendment to Senator Dill, which all present in favor of the amendment signed; before the Commonwealth Club in Seattle, where a resolution favoring the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment was adopted; a luncheon given by the Faculty Woman's Club of the University of Washington; a meeting of the Seattle Business and Professional Women's Clubs; a luncheon of the Democratic Woman's Club, and at a meeting of the Woman's Commercial Club, where a resolution was adopted, urging support of the Equal Rights Amendment.

In writing to National Headquarters Miss Vernon states:

"I am speaking at a joint meeting of the machinists, boilermakers and blacksmiths. The attitude of all the members of these unions is splendid and the applause they give every time the matter of Equal Rights is pre-

sented to them seems to indicate enthusiastic support.

"I have spoken before a meeting of the King County Federation of the Woman's Legislative Council of Washington. Mrs. Sophie L. W. Clark offered a resolution endorsing the Amendment, which was thoroughly discussed before the vote was taken. A communication was read giving all the stock objections and the list of organizations opposing the Amendment. Miss Lucy Case, an officer of the local American Association of University Women, was present and told of the action taken by the national association at its recent convention and said that this name should be removed from the list. The resolution in favor of the Amendment was adopted by a good majority.

"In May I spoke at a luncheon of the Religious Workers' Educational Association, which adopted a resolution of endorsement of the Amendment to be sent to their Congressmen.

"In May I also spoke before a meeting of the Neighbors of Woodcraft Totem Club and this organization also endorsed the Amendment.

"I have had a conference with several officers and members of the Woman's Trade Union League of Seattle in their headquarters. Several of the members of their executive committee are in full accord with the Woman's Party program.

"I spent a day in Bellingham

with Mrs. Olive M. Bruce, who arranged conferences for me with some of the prominent citizens of that town. Mr. Will Griswold, a leading attorney and prominent member of the Republican State Central Committee, gave entire support to the Amendment and would accept no thanks for writing to the Washington Congressmen urging their support of the Amendment, saying he was doing this because he 'believes in the Amendment.'

"Miss Lucy Case and I spoke at a meeting of the Tacoma League of Women Voters at the home of the president, Mrs. J. A. Orr, in Tacoma. The Amendment was endorsed by the League in a resolution to be sent to the Congressmen and several officers and members joined the Woman's Party.

"I also spoke at a luncheon of the Alpha Club, one of the pioneer women's organizations of Seattle, and the Amendment was endorsed here.

"A meeting was arranged by Miss Jean Stovel at the 'Bookery,' a library and book shop run by three women. Miss Stovel presided and I fully explained the Woman's Party work. A resolution was adopted and a number of those present joined the Woman's Party.

"In a few days I shall go to Yakima and Spokane and will return to Seattle for a meeting at which a state committee for the Woman's Party will be chosen."

From The Press

Has Man Suffrage Failed?

IDA CLYDE CLARKE
June Pictorial
Review.

"IN a recent number of a well known literary magazine a distinguished gentleman raises the oft-repeated question,

'Has Woman Suffrage Failed?' He sets himself up to prove that it has. In his opinion, we women are failures as citizens—flat, dismal, sordid failures. This conclusion he reaches via the fact that we have not sent women to Congress or put them in large numbers in large jobs.

"Four years ago, he tells us, men were expecting, as a result of woman suffrage, trouble, confusion and wreck'; and 'the stoutest-hearted captains of wards looked with gloom upon the future.' Now men are not in the least alarmed. Well, it is gratifying, is it not, to know that they do not hold us responsible for present-day conditions?

"That women have not made the best use of their new power any conscientious observer will be forced to admit. But what use has *man* made of the ballot? Is *man* suffrage a failure?

"To be sure, American men have exercised the franchise for something like a hundred years—while American women have voted for about four years only. Why should women be expected to accomplish in four years what men have failed to accomplish in a century? By what sort of magic could we ourselves hope, between Presidential elections, even to clean up the appalling, almost hopeless mess into which national and world affairs have been plunged by voting men?

"Now, we admit that for the ills that beset us, voting man, not voting woman, is responsible. The world is still man-made, man-governed, man-operated."

Single Moral Standard

The Shield
(England).

"WE are agreed in holding with entire conviction that the maintenance of the single standard is es-

sentential to a right appreciation and discharge of the obligations of each sex to the other. This standard is as necessary to the true interests of the man as of the woman. To surrender it is to lay the man open immediately to grave and cruel temptations. The present double standard may appear to place women in an exalted universe, as a creature of virtue to which men cannot attain. This, however, is not only to degrade man; it is to degrade woman also, for if man cannot be expected to reach that level, many women are of necessity forced beneath it."

Card Index

Philadelphia
Ledger,
May 21.

"IT is not so long ago that the famous card index of the National Woman's Party brought Congress to

pass the Nineteenth Amendment."

Two Million Dollar Fund Treasurer's Report

EDITH AINGE: Treasurer
NETTIE TRAIL: Auditor: C. P. A.

RECEIPTS of National Headquarters, December 7th, 1912, to June 12th, 1924, \$1,256,730.49.

Contributions, membership receipts and other receipts, June 12th, 1924, to June 26th, 1924. (Half of membership fees are retained by the State Headquarters. The half of these fees sent to National Headquarters are listed below):

Miss Virginia Blunt, D. C.	\$10.00
Per New York Committee:	
Mrs. Alfred Rossin	300.00
Miss Mary Gertrude Fendall, Md.	5.00
Mrs. Elizabeth Worth Muller, N. Y.	25.00
Miss Katharine Hughes, N. Y.	1.00
Mrs. Lucien H. Alexander, Pa.	1.00
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Mrs. Ida J. D'Egelbert, Cal.	1.00
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Mrs. Louise H. Prichard, N. Y.	1.00
Miss Ethel G. Waters, D. C.	1.00
Miss Helen Douglas, Ga.	1.00
Miss Maud M. Starker, Cuba.	10.00
Miss Marion May, N. Y.	250.00
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Mrs. F. B. Pearson	.50
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Dr. Elsa Gerhold	4.50
Miss Mary Caroline Taylor	4.50
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Mrs. M. C. Dowell	.50
Miss E. T. Lewis	.50
Miss Edna Zeigler	.50
Miss M. J. Johnston	.50
Mrs. Belle Nye, N. M.	1.00
Rent of rooms at Headquarters	44.00
Sale of literature	2.52
Per Headquarters Committee:	
Mrs. Sophie G. Meredith, Va.	25.00

Total receipts, June 12, 1924, to June 26, 1924 \$927.52
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to June 26, 1924 \$1,257,658.01

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